NEW YORK HERALD SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 1850.

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AMUSEMENTS TO MORROW EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATER, Broadway-King CHARMING MERLOS GARDEN, Broadway-Four Lovens-Jovita-BOWERY THEATRE, BOWERY-OLIVER TWIST-EQUES-

BURTON'S THEATER, Chambers street.-New Year's WALLACK'S THEATER, Broadway-Po-ca HON FAS-

LAURA KEENE'S VARIETIES, Broadway-Dikans or WOOD'S MINSTRULS, 444 Broadway-Ermopley Pas-

BUCKLEY'S BURLESQUE OPERA HOUSE, 559 Broad DORALDSON'S OPERA HOUSE, 663 Broadway-Ermo

BROOKLYN ATHEN AUM, Brooklyn-Ethiopean Musical

New York, Sunday, December 30, 1855.

The News.

The steamship Star of the West, which left San Juan on the 20th inst., arrived at this port yesterday afternoon, having over half a million of dollars or freight, including a first shipment from the mines of Nicaragua, with very interesting news from that republic. General Walker's government was more popular, the country quiet, and his troops so nume-rous that he had detached a battalion to Honduras to assist the President, if necessary, in any difficulties which may arise between his people and the execu-tive of Guatemala. Experienced American miners from California were very sanguine of obtaining a rich yield of gold in Nicaragua.
In the House of Representatives at Washington

yesterday, ballotting was resumed for Speaker, but no result was attained, Mr. Banks, during the entire voting, falling short six or seven votes of an election. One of our correspondents states that if a Speaker is not elected by Wednesday, the President will recommend the adoption of the plurality rule. Some important papers relative to the confirmation of the last treaty with Mexico, obtained from th Mexican archives, are said to be in the possession of persons in Washington, by which it appears that a Mexican agent received some \$16,000 for secret service, and that a similar amount was divided among other individuals, some of whom are now clamores for the repudiation by the United States of the three million drafts.

One of our Washington correspondents gives very interesting account of the Penitentiary in the rict of Columbia. Among other curious facts which he notes, is a remark of the Warden, that nine-tenths of the prisoners who are committed to the institution are found to have their arms marked with India ink. Hence our correspondent infers in other prisons, it might be well, before employing strangers, to examine their arms.

Our annual necrology is published this morning It embraces notices of the decease of many eminent soldiers and statesmen, both in Europe and the United States, and will be found very interesting as a record. During the past twelvemenths, Nicholas the Czar of Russia: Lord Raglan, Commander-in Chief of the British army in the Crimea; Admiral Bruat, commander of the Black Sea squadron of France; Count Molé, of France, with a great number of other eminent men, died in Europe, whilst the United States lost some of her most trusted mer-

chants, legislators, and army and naval officers.

From the official report of the City Inspector we earn that there were 331 deaths in this city during the past week, namely: 63 men, 55 women, 132 boys and 81 girls—an increase of two only on the mor tality of the week previous. There were 4 deaths of exy, 5 of bronchitis, 7 of conges angs, 40 of consumption, 15 of inflammation of the langs, 6 of congestion of the brain, 11 of inflamma tion of the brain, 8 dropsy in the head, 4 of en-largement of the heart, 3 disease of the heart, 4 of dysentery, 10 of inflammation of the bowels, 7 of smallpox, 40 of convulsions (infantile), 14 of croup. 31 of scarlet fever, 11 of marasmus (infantile), and 1 each of teething, hooping cough and measler There were also 6 premature births, 26 cases of still born, and 8 deaths from violent causes. The follow ing is the classification of diseases:- Bones, joints &c., 3; brain and nerves, 77; generative organs, 2 heart and blood vessels, 11; lungs, throat, &c., 92 akin, &c., and eruptive fevers, 43; stillborn and pre mature births, 32: stomach, bowels and other diges tive organs, 46; uncertain seat and general fevers 19; nrinary organs, 3; old age, 3. table gives 231 natives of the United States, 62 o Ireland, 19 of Germany, 7 of England, 4 of Scotland and the balance of various European countries.

The foreign news received by the Pacific produces

no marked effect yesterday upon the cotton market. The sales footed up about 1,000 bales, at quite steady prices. The news caused a firmer feeling to spring up in flour, which closed quite firm at the full quo tations of the previous day. Wheat was in fair demand; good red was scarce, and wanted for export. A sale of Upper Lake was made at \$1 87# Corn was heavy. Old was sold at 90c. a 92c., and new at 80c. a 90s. for all descriptions. Rye was dull, and less saleable. Pork again declined, and closed at \$18 for mess, and \$15 for prime. Beef was also dull. Rice was in better demand for export, with sales ranging from 4 c. a 5 c. and 5 c. the latter figure for strictly prime. Sugars and coffee were quiet but firm. In freights a moderate was done, with a rather better feeling for Liverpool. To the Continent quotation were unchanged. We have noticed recently large purchases of Southern flour for shipment to the lediterranean. This description was probably preferred from the fact that it will bear a long voyage and a change of climate better than that of Northe growth and manufacture. Owing to the limited supply of Genesee wheat of prime quality—much of it having been grown or sprouted by the wet weather about the period of harvesting—Southern brands of flour have, to a large extent, supplied its place in this and other Atlantic cities for domesti use. In place of Hiram Smith's, (which has disappeared from market this season), with nesee brands, we have been sup plied with extra St. Louis, Petersburg, Richmond, Fredericksburg and Georgetown brands. Much of the Michigan wheat was also injured by the rain, and hence mixed brands of that flour rules lower in this market than common State. The Canadian white wheat, which matured later in the season more or less escaped injury. It is said the Roches ter millers have, to a considerable extent, supplied themselves with it, and sold the flour made from it as Genesce, just as Oswego millers produce flour ois and Upper Lake grown wheat, in large on State. The host of bakers, confectioners and private families in this city, have been induced to nse Southern extra brands of flour, which varies in price, as to quality, from \$9 75 s \$10 and \$11. The Richmond brands of

Galego and Haxai extra are generally sold

owing to the fact that R keeps in hot climates and on 'ong voyages better than any other. It may be attended that the Southern flour contains more gluten than that made from wheat grown in higher latttodes, and hence in its conversion into dough re-quires more water; and we understand that it is dough well with a wooden roller, on an oak table or block, before it is formed into biscuit and baked in particles of the common atmosphere to become involved with the glutinous dough, which is baking undergoes expansion and expulsion, bear ing the bread light and well raised, without the ence of vesst, or other foreign mixtures. The presence of yeast, or other surega-dough may be improved by using milk in place of water—good lard or butter being also added, if desired, which generally improves the bread.

The Speakership-Democratic Cancus-Coming to a Point-Try it Again-Give us the

The democratic caucus of Friday night, at Washington, came within a hair's breadth of settling the question of the Speakership. The motion of Gen. Quitman, of Mississippl, that if no Speaker shall have been elected by Wednesday next, the democratic members shall agree to the plurality rule, lacked only two votes of being adopted; and the final resolution that no democratic member shall offer any proposition in the House touching the Speak ership unless by and with the consent of another caucus, may yet result, before Wednes day, in definitively settling the question. Col. Richardson's voluntary withdrawal from the contest, though not accepted, is also in the right spirit; and should it appear that the Know Nothing balance of power is prepared to concentrate a sufficient vote upon some other democrat to elect him, we have no doubt that Richardson will insist upon that man taking his place.

In the meantime it is the duty of the twelfth section Americans, if there be a democrat acceptable to them as against Banks, who would also be acceptable to the supporters of Richardson-it is the duty, we say, of the balance of power party to make that fact known without further delay. Otherwise the democratic party will be fally authorized, under all the circumstances of the case, to adopt the plurality rule, or to retire in sufficient numbers from the House to let the opposition elements, who constitute the great plurality, settle the issue among themselves. The administration, it is understood, has been getting into hot water, as usual, and is anxiously desirous of an organization without further loss of time, from the necessity of Congressional action upon various delicate, interesting and paramount is suce in our foreign affairs, European, West Indian and Central American. But the party representing the administration in the House are in a decided minority. Give them the Speaker and the committees of the body, and they will be still tied up, from the vast opposition majority of all kinds against them.

For all practical purposes, therefore, the Speaker, to the democratic minority, would amount to little or nothing. In fact, the office can scorcely be desirable to them, either in a party or a business point of view, because it would saddle them with responsibilities without any of the abilities to carry them out. It would be paradoxical and inconvenient at every turn, to have a House placed in the charge of a minority, with an overwhelming opposition majority against them. We dare say that in this aspect of the case the democrats of the House are not very anxious to secure the election of Richardson, but would probably prefer, from a common sense application of minorities and majorities, the election of Banks or any other black republican or Know Nothing upon whom these discordant opposition elements might be able successfully to unite. Consequently, after having proved their adhesion to Richardson sufficiently to vindicate their position upon principle, before the country, this democratic minority may satisfactorily give way and leave the door open for the election of Banks.

The case is different with the conservative

Know Nothings. While it is the Presidential policy of the democrats to give the black republicans a fall length of rope in the House of Representatives, satisfied that they will carry the nigger question to such extremities as to result in a tremendous democratic popular reaction against them, it is no less the policy of the American conservatives to check this anti-slavery agitation in Congress; or how can they count upon standing neutral upon slavery in the Presidential election? This agitation may be checked by giving the democrats the Speaker, which would result in such an appointment of the committees as to give business the precedence, at least over abolition projects of sectional excitement; for we presume the democrats have prepared the regular appropriation bills of the session. The onus of this question, and the exact responsibility, therefore, rest with the balance of power represented by Mr. Fuller and the scattering votes of the Know No thing conservatives. They cannot reasonably demand either of the larger parties to surrender to them. Neither 105 men nor 74 men can be required in any political body to capitulate to an indefinite party of 35 or 40. It is the duty of this latter branch of the general anti-administration opposition to make their choice between Richardson, or some other democrat, and Banks, and to indicate it authoritatively to the House, that Congress may be organized and proceed to the practical business to which the members have been commissioned, at eight dollars per day each, from the public treasury, and a liberal margin of mileage.

The case with the conservative Know No things, then, is simply this: They cannot expect in any possible contingency, either of the other parties of the House to come over to them. That thing is out of the question. They have the alternative, however, of a choice and a decision between the two other larger parties. They may check very materially the schemes of sectional agitation of Giddings & Co. by determining the scale in favor of a democratic speaker, but the farce has continued long enough; and if this smaller opposition party are not yet prepared to speak their alternative the democrats will be justified in falling back upon the plurality rule, and giving to the general opposition majority—which will be held responsible for the acts of this Congress—the necessary power to organize the House.

The democrats have proved their adhesiveness and unity upon principle. It were absurd to suppose that any possible event can arise in which they will surrender to an out-and-out opposition party. But having given abundant opportunities to this balance of power party te their choice, and finding that they and Richardson, or any other democrat, the democrats can now be fairly acquitted before the country of any concessions to the abolition league, should they refuse to stand any longer between them and these independents and seceders upon Fuller and others.

The Speaker must be a democrat or a black republican. That point we held to be settled. We must take things as we find them, and deal with them accordingly. Neither black republican nor democrat can be elected by a majo rity, without a diversion one way or the other from Fuller, the Marshalls, or others of the third party. But as the public business is now the paramount issue, and as the democratic minority will be holding their true position by surrendering this question of the Speaker to he general opposition majority-Know No things inclusive-to whom the office rightfully belongs, we repeat that the time has arrived when the democracy may safely notify the Fuller party that if they cannot accept a democrat, the door will be opened to the election of Banks.

If, therefore, the Fuller party have no alternative to propose on Monday, we go, in behalf of the interests of the American people and the public treasury, for the adoption of the plurality rule, Banks or no Banks. Finally, we admonish the Know Nothings that if they cannot go over to the democracy Banks will be the Speaker. We are tired of the farce-the country is tired of it. Give us the Speaker, give us the President's Message, and let us know whether we are drifting in the channels of peace or heading into the perils of a general war.

American Diplomacy in Europe

Of all the institutions of modern society, we venture to say that our diplomacy in Europe is at once the most complete caricature and the most mortifying exhibition of imbecility, arrogance and ignorance combined. It is cer tainly sufficiently original, and what is more in this age of civilization, it promises never even to have a rival. It is not, therefore, a counterfeit, but a real genuine diplomatic corps-persons holding offices under the conioint concern of Pierce, Marcy and Forney actually entrusted with the collection of their pay, with the care of their reputation -a meagre duty-and, heaven save the mark, the ho nor of the American name.

There is, perhaps, no nation on the globe so little interested in maintaining an elaborate diplomatic system as the United States; but while this is so, there is no nation so deeply interested as the American people in maintaining, as their agents abroad, men of the highest character for intelligence and moral weight. Our political ideas are wholly difterent from those of every other nation. We are the object, to some extent, of distrust and aversion, and to a great extent of misrepresentation and abuse. We are charged with rapacity and a most sloven disregard of the rights of weaker States. It is not material to inquire into the motives of those who thus speak of us; it is enough to reflect that our political system itself is a ceaseless assault upon those of the chief nations of the world. In such a condition of things, by the usages of civilized States we are required to receive ambassadors, ministers and consuls of friendly nations, and to despatch our own to their res pective courts. These international agencies are regarded as convenient means of keeping the peace; and their incumbents are always received as fit representatives of the peculiar deas, habits and acquirements of the people by whom they are despatched. Such unquestionably is the theory of the office and the con clusions incident to its establishment.

We now come down to our diplomatic corps in England and on the continent of Europe. Excluding Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Mason, who faithfully attend to the business entrusted character and name abroad, there is not a sign of diplomatic representation of our country in Europe. The United States legations of Ber lin, Vienna, and Turin might as well be vacat ed. Belmont is often in Paris, attending to the operations of the Bourse; Lewis Cass, Jr. Charge at Rome, spends most of the time in the midst of the guieties of the French capital; Mr. Augustus Cæsar Dodge, Envoy to Spain, whatever may be said of the integrity of his purposes, is sadly out of place at Madrid. Mr. Dodge may be a very good man and we doubt not his honest intentions and purposes to serve his countrymen to the best possible advantage, but conceding all this, it must after all be admitted that he was sent to Spain to fill an office far more than to discharge the duties of a delicate and important

For instance, our relations with Spain, involving possible complications with some of the leading States of Europe, are among the most responsible and important of all our unsettled affairs abroad. Whether we conside the magnitude of the interests involved, the peculiar character of the Spanish people, and their greater or less identification with both France and England, it becomes obvious a once that to Madrid we should have despatch ed an envoy of the highest qualifications and experience for the service. General Pierce thought otherwise; and to meet the case sent Mr. Dodge-Mr. Dodge of Iowa-Mr. Dodge, a very honest Senator, with no possible qualifica tions, experience, or diplomatic knowledge wa selected. Mr. Belmont, Mr. Dodge, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Daniel, Mr. Vroom, Mr. Spence, Mr. Bedinger, Mr. Owen-enough to produce political paralysis - these are the representatives of the United States at the different European courts. There is such a thing as ignorance cou cealing itself; but that characteristic constitute: no part of the life of our diplomate in Europe They are as well known for stupidity, selfshness and presumption as for their ignorance. They were sent abroad to satisfy their political claims at home-to represent a party, and not a country. They consti tute a fair body of men, estimating them by the motives under which they were appointed, and the actual services it was expected they would perform. Their corresondence with the Department of State, if pubished, would, we doubt not, furnish the most funny exhibition of one of our weak points. Our ministers and consuls, in nine cases out of ten, are not only ignorant of the services required of them, but also of the commonest civilities of life. They go abroad, gaining access by virtue of their rank to society, only to discover their own total unfitness to discharge the simplest duties devolving upon them, and to disgrace their country by their

ill-concealed ignorance of all conventional

seen this state of things so far as Europe is concerned, not overdrawn-when he prescribed citizen's apparel. His object may have been to make them no more ridiculous than possiblenot to dress the ape too guadily or attempt to cover the ase's cars.

It is undoubtedly a great conquest which Gen. Pierce has made in Europe. His diplomatic representatives—they are pre-eminently the representatives of his administration—have fixed his reputation there as it is here. There was certainly weakness in our popular system so far as our agents abroad were concerned. It has ever been so, and especially during the strictly party reigns of the last thirty years But Gen. Pierce has improved in this res on the follies of all his predecessors. He has actually dignified them all, elevated them all, in the humble place he himself occupies. Do the American people know that to be an official personage now in Europe under the Pierce and Marcy tactics is equivalent to losing the commonest respect in all well informed society?

Precisely when we needed our ablest and truest men-men of industry, patriotism, and of enlarged and comprehensive ideas our legations are filled with a mass of stupidity and tolly utterly disgraceful to the American name When Europe was re-organizing its dynasties settling its political balances and combining to, become masters of the world, we are made to speak through a totally imcompetent diplomatic corps. Without political or social influence, with no knowledge of the countries and men to which they are accredited, and little of their own, they can neither appre ciate the duties devolving upon them as representatives of our ideas, or discharge the plainer and less difficult conventional obligations of society. In truth, they are the mere party men of our country-mere trading politicians; and the great misfortune is that the dignity and the paramount political interests of the republic are sacrificed in their persons.

Just at this moment, more perhaps than a any former period of our history, we require at the principal European courts men of the greatsuch places as Chicago, St. Paul and St. An thony, and who are now making the most of our splendid acquisitions on the Pacific. These sensible people go to work and develope the resources of the country, leaving the lazy politicians to quarrel about abstractions as heartily as they will.

A Year's Necrology.

We publish elsewhere a record of the principal eminent men who have died during the past twelve months. It is not unusually full perhaps not as full as usual. Considering the thousands who have been exposed to the casualties of war, indeed, it must be admitted that the number of eminent men whom the world has lost during the past year is agreeably small.

The greatest loss of the year is undoubtedly the Emperor Nicholas. Living, he was without question one of the ablest sovereigns and statesmen of the world; and though in later years his early vigilance and honesty of purpose suffered a decline-though enticing schemes of foreign conquest diverted his mind from his really great works, the codification of the Russian laws and the reform of the Russian civil service, he has still left a name which will compare favorably with that of any Czar since Peter Alexiovitch, not to say any monarch of modern times. It was in some respect his misfortune to have engaged in his last years in a war with two Powers, which, by their superior intellectual activity may be said to make public opinion in the Old World, and whose calumnies bave for a time darkened his fame. When they shall have passed away, Nicholas the Great will receive the honor due to his talents, his excellent moral character, and his many virtues.

Another great statesman who died during the year 1855, was Count Molé, a man of varied accomplishments and versatile talent; graceful, pleasing, gentlemanly; as full o nonor and chivalry as the noblest of the old noblesse, and reviving in his person the highest and worthiest of the ancestral virtues of the house of Molé. England's greatest loss-among her statesmen-is Joseph Hume, who aspired not quite unsuccessfully, to the title of the British Cato. Endowed with but moderate talents, Mr. Hume atoned for his want of brilliancy by industry, perseverance, and unshakable fidelity to the cause of the people: he has left his name a byword in Parliament for incorruptible integrity, lynx eyed watchfulness and indomitable courage. Sir William Moles worth is dead, too; a man of industry and red tape; fond of talking in Parliament about the Colonies, and such matters which nobody understood; hence credited with vast crudition and great sagacity in colonial affairs: let him

Among the statesmen, perhaps, a small place should be found for the unfortunate Don Car los of Spain. Not that he ever showed states manship; on the contrary, his brother Fer dinand was not a greater dunderhead in politics than he. But Carlos enjoyed the wretched privilege of being the means of imbruing Spain in blood for seven consecutive years, and fills no small place in the world's history. Unlike most pretenders-who, like the aspirants to the Presidency in this country, usually keep on hoping until their very podies are laid in the coffin-Carlos resigned his claims on the throne of Spain ten years ago, to his son. He died, it is to be hoped, peacefully, undisturbed by visions of his slaughtered countrymen calling for ven-

Many great soldiers and sailors have died during the year, or have been killed in battle Lord Ragian, an excellent man, full of amia ble qualities, and lacking nothing to become a hero but energy, talent and military skill: Admiral Nachimoff, ingloriously known to fame as the conqueror of Sinope, Admiral Boxer; Admiral Bruat; and scores of fine officers, French, English, Russian, whom it were impossible to enumerate here.

None of the great names in letters—the men whom every onefloves no matter what their country-bave been lost to us since last New Year. Three well known women have died: the tender and amiable Charlotte Bronte, to whem the world owes a biography and a monument: Lady E. Stewart Wortley; and the clever but Frenchy Sophle Gay. Science counts among its chief losses our countryman, Dr. Beck, whose works on medical jurisprudence are the highest authority on the subject in all civilized countries. Naturalists deplore the death of the learned Ch. de Meyer; and the world of science generally misses Professor Gans. Personal piques and professional jeaings, and musicians have paid a tribute of sor-

row to the memory of Sir Henry Bishop. The bar, abroad, has lost Dr. Phillimore, whose professional career had gained for him world-wide celebrity. At home, we have to regret among others Mr. Daniel Whiting, a cotemporary of Burr and Hamilton; the emi-nent John C. Spencer, Judge Wilde, Judge Cranch, Judge Edwards—all men whose loss

Our mercantile communities have not suffer ed as severely as usual this year. Yet Abbott and Amos Lawrence are gone, and we have seen many honored names—Walter R. Jones, James McBride, Samuel Thompson, James O. Ward, W. H. Brown—at the head of the obituary page. Five editors we find in the list-Mr. Kettell and Mr. Rogers of Boston, Mr. Simmons of Philadelphia, Mr. Severance of Augusta Me., Mr. Merle, of Paris, France. Considering the number, it is gratifying to see how slight the mortality is among the profession.

The Progress of Western Cities.

The old saying that "Rome was not built in a day," must now be used only to show what precious slow old fogies the Romans were; for the history of this country will show that it is quite easy to build cities in a very much shorter space of time than was required by the vagabonds who collect ed on the Palatine Hill. Everybody is fa miliar with the facts connected with the extraordinary progress of Chicago, which is the Empire City of the West, or fast besoming so. Our friends in California think nothing of verifying the Phonixian fable, and building up a town a day or two after it has been destroyed by fire; and we have before us a curious pamphlet-"A Historical Sketch of St. Antho ny and Minneapolis"—which gives statistics of the most remarkable progress on our Northwestern frontier. We extract a few facts:-

Saint Anthony and Minneapolis are in the Territory of Minnesota, near the head waters of the Mississippi. The town was laid out in 1849. Previous to that time Mr. F. Steele had purchased the whole of the land where the town now stands for four hundred and fifty dollars He sold, in 1847, nine-tenths of his interest to Caleb Cushing, Robert Rantoul, Jr., and others, of Massachusetts. Mr. Cushing went to the big wars in Mexico, and Mr. Rantoul was unable to complete the purchase. The land then reverted to the original owner, who had entered largely into the lumbering business, for which the place is said to possess remarkable facilities. The town of Saint Anthony now has three thousand inhabitants and Minneapolis one thousand. There were some queer fellows among the pioneers, and we extract the following description of one of them:-

the following description of one of them:—
In 1840 Mr. Steele sold one unsivided half of his interest in the property of St. Anthony to Arnold W. Taylor, of Boston, for \$20,000. A history of St. Anthony would be incomplete without some description of this remarkable individual; and yet, few characters can be found as difficult faithfully to portray. His like is not to be found in all the portraits drawn by the pen of a Smollett or Scott, Dickens or Dumas. Indeed, in all the characters ever drawn by pen, from the time when goosie lenters ever drawn by pen, from the time when goosie land her aid, sye, back to ancient reeds, down to the present use of steel and gold, we find no kith nor kin to the subject of our sketch. He stands by himself, solitary and alone, in all this surging world of humanity, and as said of firmes, "we ne'er shall sae his like again." Childish simplicity, yet withal shrewdness, difficant to a fault, now communicative, now silent as the grave, delighting in the ring of metal, clutching close and tight said of drimes, "we ne'er shall see his like again." Childish simplicity, yet withal shrewdness, difficent to a fault, now communicative, now silent as the grave, delighting in the ring of metal, clutching close and tight to the "evil root," and then again when faucy pleased, full lavi h—and more than all, a bachelur, of full forty, such an assembleg of inconguities and contraction were never before united in a single character. Running over with eccentricity, and easily led to yield confidence, where wisdom would findly refuse, he became (sometimes at least), the dupe of the designing knave, regretting too late the indiscretion. Making segar depots of every pile of lumber through the town, singly stowing away a few choice Havanas, it seldom happened that he did not surprise the passers by, in revealing the secreted treasure, inviting to partake. We well recollect his calling back to the St. Charles a young friend who had passed on several blocks towards the lower town, and whispering in his ear, "Take a segar, sir very nice! very nice!" won that the parior and drew a couple from under the sofa. He seemed to entertain no little fear of the fair sex, invariably crossing to the opposite side of the street to avoid them. This we may set down as a most striking peculiarity. His constant companion in sunshine or storm, cold or hit, an old cotton umbrella and overcoat, à la Greeley, excepting the color, this being faded green, instead of dirty white. The New Yorks Huntar was his Evangelist and authority upon all matters, political or religious, moral or entimental, whether pertaining to merket quotations white. The New York Hunard was his Evange ist and authority upon all matters, political or religious, moral or sentimental, whether pertaining to market quotations from the east, or the prospect of crossing the plains, and sale of eattle in San Francisco. Whenever by good fortune the paper arrived, one might see his head popping in at stores and office doors and near fils "Hare you seen the HERALD" Have you seen the HERALD" Cattle selling high in San Francisco—selling high, selling high good investment, to send a drove, good investment, don't you think so? don't you think so?" The mere local excitements disturbed his mind but very little. "Champagne very good, very good," and "built a bridge, built's bridge," was the constant injunction upon all interested in hidging the Mississippi.

New York enterprise has had something to

New York enterprise has had something to do with St. Anthony, for we find that in April, 1852. Messrs. Thomas E. Davis John F. A. Sandford and Frederic O. Gebbard, of this city, purchased one-half of Mr. Steele's interest During this year they purchased one-eighth more, which they sold to Richard Chute and John S. Prince. Mr. Chute is the resident partner for the concern, which will pay large profits on the investment. The lumber trade is the especiality of St.

Anthony. There is a great dam leading from the shore to Hennepin Island, on which there are ten mills, which cut seventeen millions of feet per annum, soon to be increased to thirtyfour millions. About one hundred and fifty thousand dollars are invested in this business, and the total value of the lumber trade in St Anthony is set down at a trifle over half a million of dollars. When the lowa railways are finished St. Anthony may rival any Western city. It has numerous stores of all kinds; it indulges in two newspapers, seven lawyers, six doctors of medicine and a dentist. There are five churches, a college is in progress of erection, two free district schools are open during eight months in the year, and there are two select schools where the higher branches are taught. In 1850 a fibrary association was incorporated, thus carrying out the excellent example of the early settlers of New England, who paid early and earnest attention to educational acilities.

Minneapolis is opposite St. Anthony, on the west bank of the river. The name is derived from Minneha (Sioux) and polis (Gr.) and signifies the city of water. Colonel J. H. Stevens was the pioneer, and his daughter, now five years of age, is the oldest white child born in the settlement. The village is connected with St. Anthony by a wire suspension bridge, which cost seventy-five thousand dollars, and the tolls upon which average in amount fifty dollars per diem. Minneapolis has five churches, one doctor, (with nothing to do.) two lawyers, and a district school.

We have also received another progressive pamphlet, "Rees' Description of Keokuk, the Gate City, Lee county, Iowa." Keokuk is in the southeast corner of Iowa, situated on the Mississippi, in the little gore of territory between Illinois and Missouri. It is about twelve hundred miles from New York. They call it the Gate City because all the trade that comes up the river must pass this way. Rees thinks that the Krokuk people have much better prosnects ahead than we on this blessed Manhattan

Island. Rees may be right. Keokuk is about ten years old, and is a smart child, as the following statistics will show:-

Keckuk indulges in two daily newspa the Gate City and the Morning Glory—which Reessays are "bealthy." It has also three academies, several public schools, a medical college, a saw mill, a main street one hundred feet wide, with about one hundred fine stores, a mayor and six aldermen, four justices of the seace, a jail or calaboose which " is only an old log cabin, and it is so little used that it will hardly need any enlargement for some time." seven churches, three "first class hotels," a steamboat line to St. Louis, a railroad connecting with the great lines cast almost finished, two daguerrean artists, five or six allopathic doctors of medicine, two homeopathists, three dentists, and, as Rees says, "too many lawyers anyhow." We have no doubt that Keokuk is a nice place. We have placed these little histories on record

as curious and interesting facts in the progress of the West, and in order that it may be known that while politicians are quarrelling about all sorts of petty trifles, the people are busily extending the area of freedom and building up greatcities upon the prairies and in the immense western forests, where great rivers have rolled for ages, and heard no sound "save their own dashings." The best evidence of the peace and prosperity of the Union is found in the enterprise and success of such men as have built up est probity, industry, patriotism, sagacity and firmness. Events of the profoundest interest are almost daily occurring there, and now, when premonitory symptoms of peace are constantly appearing, and the prospect becomes more and more probable that some great plan of pacification may be hit upon affecting America as well as Europe, Mr. Buchanan in London, and Mr. Mason in Paris, are our only sentinels. If left to themselves they might get along very well; but the misfortune is that they have to do the thinking and correct the blunders of our whole blundering diplomatic body on the Continent.

There are certainly ways enough by which this administration could have shown its folly without inflicting such a national disgrace upon us. Almost every day brings home a sputtering, bungling Consul or an offended Minister. This shows, at least, that Mr. Pierce's representatives abroad know enough to get back to the States.

THE LATEST NEWS: BY ELECTRIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

From Havana and Key West. BIVAL OF THE ISABEL AT CHARLESTO CHARLESTON, Dec. 28, 1855.

The steamship Isabel, from Havana on the morning of

the 20th instant, and from Key West on the evening of the same day, arrived here to day. There is no news of importance from Havana.

The ship Ashburton, from New Orleans for Liverpool,

went ashore on the American shoals, on the 22d instant but was got off without damage. The Maine Law Approved by the Queen of

England.

A copy of an order in council, dated at the Court of Windsor Castle, November 21, 1855, was this morning received at the office of the Prohibitionist, in this city. In it her Majesty gives her official sanction to the Prohibithere mayery gives nor omital assection to the Prohibi-tory Liquor law of the province of New Brunswick, and directs the Governor, or Commander-in-Chief, and all other persons whom it may concern, to be governed thereby accordingly. The law takes effect on the first

Melancholy Accident. Borrow, Dec. 29, 1855.

At Falmouth, Maine, on Thursday evening, a Mr. Cof-fin and two young ladies named Haskell, while "coasting," were precipitated over the bank of a river, a distance of for'y feet, and Coffin and one of the ladies were drowned, and the other was so badly injured that it is feared sho cannot survive. Death of Nicholas Devereux.

UTICA, Dec. 29, 1855

Nicholas Devereux, a prominent citizen, and one of the managers of the State Lunatic Asylum, died at six o'cleck this morning, aged sixty-seven years. The Pittsburg and Steubenville Railre

Our City Council has provided for the payment of the Pirrisung, Dec. 29, 1855.

interest on the city bonds issued to the Steubenville Rail-road, due on the 1st proxime, at the office of Messrs. uncan, Sherman & Co., in New York. The river here measures 6 feet 11 inches, and is falling.

GGDENSBURG, Dec. 29, 1855.
It is very cold here. The thermometer, this morning at sunrise, stood at 20 degrees below zero. The river is frozen across a short distance above this place.

The Southern Mall.

RALTIMORE, Dec. 20, 1855.

We have no mail this morning from peints south of Movements of Southern Stea

SAVANNAH, Dec. 20, 1856. The steam-hip Augusta did not leave here for New

York until 10 o'clock on Thursday morning.

The steamship Knoxville arrived to-day, after a passage of sixty hours from New York. Markets.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.
PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 29, 1855.
Stocks heavy. Pennsylvania Fives, 8434; Resding
Railroad, 45%; Long Island, 13%; Morris Caoni, 12%;
Fennsylvania Railroad, 43%. Anti-Ratirond Meeting in Harle

A large and quite enthusiastic meeting was held at the corner of 128th street and Third avenue, Harlem, on Friday evening, which was called for the purpose of givin expression against the present management of the Fourth, Third and Second Avenue Railroads, and for the purpose of considering some project whereby the inhabitants of Harlem and the adjacent villages in Westchest county could be conveyed to the city in a more cheap

county could be conveyed to the city in a more chest and more accommodating manner.

The meeting was organized by the election of a Presi-cent and Secretary, after which Mr. Mott, who repre-rented the village of Motthaven, stated that it was pro-tosed to establish a line of steamboats, under a charter from the Legislature, with ferry privileges, to start from the Motthaven shore every hour during the day, and a such times as would accommodate those persons who usiness called them to the city at certa

hours. The boats to isnd at 120th street, 100th street, 10th street, 10th street and Feck slip, and to perform the distance in one hour or less. The steamboats to be owned by a company of as many as core do he boats to be owned by a company of as many as core do he boats to be placed at receive an interest. He said that dive or six bundred commuters could be readly obtained, who would pay thirty collars a year, and freight to the amount of two or three thousand dollars annually would be pleaged to the enterprise.

It was stated that another gentleman would build alock at the foot of 120th street, for a landing, and would also advance one thousand dollars towards the enterprise.

A delegate from Morrisania informed the meeting that if this line could be placed upon a permanent footing the people of his village would establish a line of stage to meet the boats with three hundred commuters a least; and he also stated that not fells than eight-three sand people on the line of the Harlem Railroad, who business in New York, were ready to pledge themselved the conveyed to the city by any other route.

Another delegate said that the Harlem Railroad Comwany originally held out inducements to mechanics and works greatly and the type and the conveyed to the city by any other route.

Another delegate said that the Harlem Railroad Comwany originally held out inducements to mechanics and works greatly and thirty-free dellars a year, until the contraction of the line of their road, premising that they would furnish commutation to the said of their road, premising that they would furnish commutation to the said of their road, premising that they would furnish commutation to the said of their road, premising that they would furnish commutation to the said of their road, premising that they would furnish commutation to the said of their road, premising that they would furnish commutation to the said of their road, premising that they would furnish commutation to the said of their road, premising that a premising that a premising hours. The boats to used at 120th street, 106th street